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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/763,523	02/23/2001	Jiro Nagaoka	01-162	8623

7590 06/10/2003
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EXAMINER

NOWLIN, APRIL A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/763,523	NAGAOKA ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit		
April A. Nowlin	2876		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-7 and 19-30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 13-15 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 8-12 and 16-18 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the Preliminary Amendment filed 23 February 2001.

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 1-7 and 19-30 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 7.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

3. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Substitute "reader/writer 50" with -- reader/writer 40 -- (see page 25, line 25).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

5. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: Substitute "formation" with -- information -- (see line 7). Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 8, 9, 11, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fujioka (US 6,040,786).

Re claims 8, 9, and 16: Fujioka discloses a contactless reader/writer 100 comprising: a media bearing member for bearing a contactless IC media having a recording region; a radio transceiver circuit 102 having an antenna 101, wherein the antenna 101 is embedded in a housing part positioned between the born contactless IC media and the external contactless IC media 200; and a control circuit for controlling the read and write of digital information with respect to both of the recording regions of a contactless IC media and an external contactless IC media 200 having a recording region within a coverage of the antenna 101 through the radio transceiver circuit 102.

(See figure 2; col. 6, line 53 to col. 7, line 17)

Re claim 11: Fujioka further discloses a contactless reader/writer comprising: a media bearing member which is capable of bearing a plurality of contactless IC media each having a recording region at the same time; and a control circuit that selectively conducts the read control and the write control of digital information with respect to any recording region of the plurality of contactless IC media. (See figures 1A and 1B; col. 5, line 47 to col. 6, line 52)

Re claim 17: The contactless reader/writer 100 further comprises information processing means for executing information processing on the basis of the digital information read through the control circuit; wherein the information processing result by the information processing means is recorded on the specific contactless IC media from which the digital information has been read. (See col. 6, line 53 to col. 7, line 17)

Re claim 18: The contactless IC media is accommodated in a card medium 200 used in an information processing device on which the card reader/writer 100 is mounted. (See col. 6, line 53 to col. 7, line 17)

8. Claims 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yokota et al (US 5,847,662).

Yokota et al discloses a radio card reader/writer 200, which serves as a contactless reader/writer as recited in claim 10, comprising: a media bearing member for bearing a contactless IC media having a recording region; a first radio transceiver circuit that conducts communication with the contactless IC media born by the media bearing member through a first antenna 209 in a contactless manner; a second radio

transceiver circuit that conducts communication with a radio card 300, which serves as an external contactless IC media as recited in claim 10, having a digital information recording region through a second antenna 208 in a contactless manner; and a control circuit 205 that selectively conducts the read control and the write control of the digital information with respect to the recording region of the contactless IC media or the external contactless IC media 300 through the first radio transceiver circuit or the second radio transceiver circuit. (See figure 1; col. 3, line 51 to col. 4, line 57)

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 13-15 are allowable over prior art.
10. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior of record, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or fairly suggest a contactless reader/writer comprising, among other things, a movable media bearing member which is capable of bearing a plurality of contactless IC media each having a digital information recording region on the same plane at the same time; and a displacement mechanism that displaces the media bearing member on the plane so that a specific one of the plurality of contactless IC media approaches the specific position; wherein the digital information is received and transmitted between the specific contactless IC media and the antenna.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Suga et al (US 6,427,065) discloses an information communication system using IC card; Rozin (US 6,173,899) discloses a system for contactless data exchange between a terminal and IC card; and Kenneth et al (US 5,594,233) discloses a multiple standard smart card reader.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April A. Nowlin whose telephone number is (703) 605-1219. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 6:30AM - 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (703) 305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7382 for After Final communications.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [april.nowlin@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the

Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



April A. Nowlin
June 1, 2003



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THIEN M. LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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